CHARITY and PLEASURE.

A FABLE.

By Mr. *LOCKMAN.*

On Occaſion of the ASSEMBLY and BALL at *Ranelagh-Houſe*, *Tueſday* 9th *June*, 1761.

For the BENEFIT of the MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

Preſented to His MAJESTY at St. JAMES's.

Omne tulit punctum qui miſcuit utile dulci.
- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
Junctæque Nymphis Gratiæ decentes,
Alterno terram quatiunt pede.—— HORAT.

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For the BENEFIT of the MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

HEAV'N-born CHARITY one Day,
Chanc'd near PLEASURE's Bower to ſtray;
And thus frankly ſpake Her Mind:——
" Thou, to ev'ry Vice inclin'd:
" Outward Sweet, interior Smart;
" Poyſon to the youthful Heart:
" Syren, whoſe inchanting Voice,
" Bids us, whilſt we drown, rejoice:

Fount

" Fount whence private Evils flow;
" Mighty Source of public Woe:—
" Paradiſe of ſhadowy Joys,
" Which our ſolid Bliſs deſtroys:—
" Far be thy Allurements hurl'd:—
" O! corrupt, no more, the World."

PLEASURE, at this reproach confus'd,
Replied (Her Cheeks with red ſuffus'd;)—
" Ah! (CHARITY) why thus ſevere,
" Ere, calmly, my Defence You hear?—
" If Man into Exceſs will run,
" Be His the Fault if He's undone.
" Know, Pleaſures are indifferent Things:
" From Them or Good, or Evil ſprings.—
" Happy, who ſeparates the Uſe
" Of Earth's choice Bleſſings, from th' Abuſe."

SAYING this, ſhe breath'd a Sigh.—
Soon NORTHUMBERLAND came by:
Fond of Arts, polite, humane;
Friend to Virtue's Seraph Train:
To each Patriot Briton dear;
Chief to Him * whom all revere:—
Studious of His Country's Weal;
Fir'd, for GEORGE, with ardent Zeal.

* *The late Speaker, the Right Honourable* ARTHUR ONSLOW.

CHARITY felt new Delight,
As Her Votary came in Sight.
Well She knew His Taſte refin'd,
Well She knew His generous Mind:
That, unwarp'd to either Side,
Truth would be His only Guide.
Thence thought, no One was more fit,
'Twixt Them Arbiter to ſit.

NORTHUMBERLAND, with Look benign,
The Deciſion wou'd decline:
But whilſt Each the Boon requeſt,
He both Parties thus addreſt.

" CHARITY!——ſprung from the Skies,
" Sweeteſt Comforts with thee riſe!—
" PLEASURE!——Thou wert firſt deſign'd
" As a Cordial to the Mind;
" 'Till VICE, with inſidious Art,
" Stole upon the heedleſs Heart.
" Thy true Uſe let *Both* reſtore,
" That falſe Joys may cheat no more.
" Jointly ſome DIVERSION frame,
" Worthy the loud Voice of Fame.——
" PLEASURE!—CHARITY!—unite:
" Glad the Heart, and charm the Sight.

" SEE

" See yon *Rotunda* *, high in Air,
" Let, Thither, the ſage *Joys* repair:
" Thither *Apollo*, and his *Choirs*;
" The *Graces*, *Sports*, and chaſte *Deſires*:
" There let *Terpſichore* † attend,
" Of roſy Health the conſtant Friend:
" Let *Innocence*, with ſpotleſs Soul,
" And winning Air, conduct the Whole:—
" Let Theſe our *Beauties* entertain,
" Who decorate good GEORGE's Reign."

Pleasure's Smile ſpake her Content:
And Charity breath'd *like* Aſſent:
Then adds:—" An *Hoſpital* I know
" Whoſe tender Wants bid All beſtow;
" (Tho' All demand parental Care,
" And ſhould, alike, our Bounty ſhare.)
" There ſkilful PITY gives Relief
" To Sickneſs, Pain, Diſtreſs, and Grief:
" There pregnant Matrons, when oppreſt
" By Poverty, find Halcyon Reſt:
" Preſerve their Fruit, which might be loſt;
" Or Vagrants, round the World be toſs'd:
" But foſter'd,—by a Turn of Fate,
" May become Pillars of the State."

* Ranelagh. † The Muſe who preſides over Dancing.

Charity,

" CHARITY, thus link'd with PLEASURE,
" May, in Time, produce a Treaſure.——
" If the FAIR of this fam'd Iſle
" Animate them with their Smile;
" This will Their Admirers draw:——
" Beauty to the World gives Law.

" To promote this good *Deſign*,
" See the noble PERCY † join!
" Who, amid her ſplendid Store,
" Thinks how beſt to glad the Poor:
" Fond of ev'ry ſocial Tye,
" Candour ſparkling in Her Eye:
" Chearful as a May-Day Queen;
" Thence by All with Pleaſure ſeen:
" Joy of Courts, enlighten'd, kind;
" Tranſcript of ſweet HERTFORD's § Mind."

THEN (LADIES!) grace the genial Night,
To which the VIRTUES now invite,
Kindly the Superſtructure aid,
Where Goodneſs ‡ the Foundations laid.——
Know, that your Charms then brighteſt ſhine,
When CHARITY and PLEASURE join.

† *The Counteſs of Northumberland.*

§ The Counteſs of; (afterwards Dutcheſs of Somerſet) Mother to the Counteſs of Northumberland, and the Delight of every Muſe.

‡ Lord NORTHUMBERLAND laid the firſt Stone of the Middleſex Hoſpital.——Above Twenty Thouſand Perſons have been relieved by this excellent Charity.

FINIS.